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LSU SHREVEPORT

February 1, 2001

The Almagest
Now showing: The Royal None-Such.

Volume 39, Number 2

Dead week survives



by
Matthew
Morris

The faculty senate voted last week to recommend that the university initiate a so-called dead week.

The proposal, made by Cynthia Sisson, would give students a week before finals when no major exams would be scheduled, with the exception of lab finals. Projects and papers with prior notice in the course syllabus may still be due and professors would be free to give quizzes during dead week.

ing dead week.

"It gives students a little breathing room before finals week," Sisson said. She said she made the proposal because she has seen dead week work at other schools.

"Anything we can do to maximize the success of students," said Dr. Beverly Burden, president of the faculty senate. "We need to try to accommodate the students."

This proposal is similar to one passed by the SGA last fall, but has several differences, including the allowance for quizzes.

"I'm glad to see that it passed," said Brad Bowen, an SGA senator who attended last Friday's faculty senate meeting to show his support for the proposal. "But I'm worried about the interpretation of the language."

In the original SGA proposal by Jeff Strozier, SGA president-pro-tempore, projects and papers could not be due during dead week. Members of the faculty senate were concerned that this would actually hurt the students, pointing out that students often end up waiting until late in the semester to start papers and need all the time they can get.

Dr. Milton Finley, chair of the history department and senator, pointed out

Continued on page 4

Casino tax may fund faculty pay raises



by
Scott
Balcerzak

Last week, Governor Mike Foster unveiled his plan to raise gambling taxes to give public school teachers and college faculty a statewide pay raise. The increase would be used to fund the \$70 million needed to bolster public school teacher

salaries by \$2000 a year. College faculty salaries would be raised by another part of the plan that would refinance Louisiana's current program to erase its \$8 billion liability in public retirement systems. This would save the state roughly \$135 million a year, most of which will be used toward higher education.

"I want teachers to know that we have a solid plan to give them a raise

this year," Foster said in a prepared statement released last week. He also stated that a special session of the legislature will be called in early March to vote on the plan. "They (educators) need to talk to their legislators and speak up in their communities about the need for increased teacher pay."

Much of the controversy surrounding the plan seems to focus on the increased taxes on certain types of casinos. Foster



by Audrey
Brabham

Defend thyself

"I'm the type of person people like to attack," said Annie "Deadly" Harville, part-time student at LSUS. Like many Shreveport residents, Harville has seen the recent spike in violent crime around the area. Having no prior training in self-defense, she felt helpless. Harville and twelve other LSUS students have turned to Major Ivory Irvin, 4th degree black belt, for help.

Irvin teaches martial arts and self-defense. The class is offered during the fall and spring semesters on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 until 6:45 p.m. Students learn effective

methods of self-defense based on Tae Kwon Do, with a strong emphasis on rape prevention.

"I heard this class was pretty hard core," said Bob "Slaughter" Adams, when asked why he took the class. Others were looking to stay in shape, and several of the women wanted to know that they would be able to defend themselves in an attack after taking the class.

Proficient with the Nunchauku, a martial arts weapon, Saurabh "Annihilator" Singh, is a graduate student in the Department of Kinesiology and Health Sciences. Singh has taken Irvin's

Continued on pg. 3

wishes to give casinos the right to conduct dockside gambling in exchange for implementing these higher taxes. This might bring about certain constitutional issues. All the gambling boats currently pay 18.5 percent of their grosses to the state.

In an interview last

Continued on pg. 7

INSIDE

Letters	pg. 3
Task forces	pg. 5
Crossword	pg. 6
Firefighter exhibit	pg. 7
Success Series	pg. 8
Crime	pg. 11

The Almagest

("al-meh-jest". n): Arabic: "The Majestic"
any of several medieval treatises on a branch of knowledge (as the 9th century Arabic translation of Ptolemy's Greek work on astronomy)
- Webster's Third New International Dictionary

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The Almagest Letters Policy

The Almagest requests your reactions through Letters to the Editor. Letters should be typed and double spaced. Please include your class and major field of study. Letters should be submitted to *The Almagest* office, BH 344, by noon on the Friday preceding the Thursday publication date. Obscene, libelous and anonymous letters will not be printed. *The Almagest* reserves the right to edit letters. □

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From the editor

In the book "Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain a couple of shysters called the Duke and the King run a scam called "The Royal None-Such." It's an overpriced show that runs three times and is advertised scandalously by barring women and children in order to pique the curiosity of the townsmen. The show is a two minute skit with the King nude and painted, parading around on all fours.

The first night half of the townsmen get scammed and don't tell anybody.

The second night the other half of the townsmen get scammed.

On the third night, the whole town shows up for revenge, and so the Duke and the King charge admission and skip town without holding the third show.

This week has been interesting with bold proposals being made by the task forces here on campus and by Governor Foster.

Several task forces have presented proposals for changes on our campus.

Many parts of the proposals are mere repetitions of suggestions that have been made repeatedly throughout the years. Easy things such as: Be more courteous on the phone, increase student involvement, etc.

Other parts, however, are major changes which are novel, but they sometimes conflict with proposals from other task forces. With eleven task forces all analyzing and proposing, it's only natural that there would be some conflict.

Now the proposals are going to the University Planning Committee to influence and guide the committee's future decisions.

A concern here is that the proposals may not reflect the concerns of the University as a whole. Members of the task forces were hand-picked by Chancellor Marsala and not by their peers. Also student involvement was minimal even though the task force meetings were open to all students. Perhaps student involvement would have

been higher if the students had been banned.

In other related news, Governor Foster has proposed increasing gambling taxes to pay for public teacher pay increases. I'm all for it, but it's kind of hard to believe, when the Legislative Compensation Review Commission is also recommending pay raises for state officials such as the lieutenant governor, treasurer, attorney general and lawmakers. The commission hasn't mentioned where any of that money will come from.

The first show was held at LSUS. The second show is going on in Baton Rouge. I believe the third show will be in Washington. Don't forget to bring your rotten eggs, because in the end of "Huck Finn" the King and Duke were tarred and feathered.

Mark Rogers,
Editor-in-
Chief



Calendar of events

		Thu Feb. 1	Fri Feb. 2	Sat Feb. 3	Sun Feb. 4
		SGA meeting, 10:30 a.m., U.C. Interviewing Workshop, 10:30 a.m., U.C. 5-on-5 Basketball play starts	SOC meeting, noon, U.C. Baseball: LSUS vs. Northwood University, 2 p.m.	Baseball: LSUS vs. Northwood University, 1 p.m.	
Mon Feb. 5	Tue Feb. 6	Wed Feb. 7	Thu Feb. 8	Fri Feb. 9	Sat Feb. 10
Last day to drop courses or resign without receiving grade of "W" Deadline for applying to the Teacher Education Program and Retention	Networking for Success workshop, 10:30 a.m., U.C. SOC recruitment fair Society of Reason 5:00 p.m. Pornography @ UC 2nd floor	Baseball: LSUS vs. Delta State University, 2 p.m. @ LSUS	SGA meeting, 10:30 a.m., U.C. Last day to receive 40% refund for dropped courses or resignations New Almagest	Baseball: LSUS vs. University of Louisiana-Monroe, @ Monroe, 6:30 p.m.	Baseball: LSUS vs. University of Louisiana-Monroe, at Monroe, 2 p.m.
Sun Feb. 11					

Letter to the editor

Dear Editor:

I was stunned just now when I read the Almagest article on the task force's recommendations for restructuring. I counted eight majors that the task force suggested "closing down". My question is as follows: Why on earth would a university that is struggling to attract more students consider eliminating majors?

Especially troubling is the task force's suggestion to eliminate the Physics and Math majors. Many of the brightest students I know on campus are either Math or Physics majors. Does this university really want to kill two programs that attract a very small set of very bright students? Eliminating a major will most certainly hurt the chances for recruiting top quality staff in that department. Can this university really afford to have a weak math department in the future?

Also mentioned was the elimination of the Computer Science degree, and replacing it with a "General Studies concentration program" titled "Applied Information Technology." What this amounts to is a dumbing-down of the curriculum. The fact is that the attrition rate for Computer Science freshmen and sophomores is horrible. This is because the program involves a lot of tough math (first math listed is Calculus), and the first few CS classes are a beast to those without any previous exposure to the ideas presented. Instead of attempting to fix the curriculum by possibly better preparing students, this task force is recommending the elimination of the program. This is a tough program that is backed by a certification. They recommend replacing it with a much easier program backed by nothing more than the academic prestige of this university. To me this is a clear sign that the task force seems to be willing to dumb down the curriculum if it will promise more graduates. Is this really the direction we need to go?

It just seems ludicrous to me for the university to consider eliminating majors, especially fundamental majors like Math, at a time when it desperately needs to do everything possible to attract and retain students. To be frank, I am gravely concerned that this task force's recommendations, if fulfilled, will further damage this university's already precarious academic prestige. These recommendations affect every student and alumni of LSUS directly. It is your degree and mine they are trying to cheapen.

Richard Rowell

Note From the News Editor:

Some of the complaints mentioned in Richard Rowell's letter concerning the "closing down" of certain majors are rather valid. But I feel I need to mention that some of the information concerning the recommendations in my article last week might have been misleading to the reader. A few of the majors grouped under the heading of "closing down" were actually recommended to be drastically retooled. For a full report on the task forces' recommendations, see page 4.

SB



Self-defense instructor teaches "lip rip"

Continued from pg. 1

course before, and is able to assist students during class. He remains after to practice weapons training with the instructor. "Major likes for you to take his class before he begins weapons work," Singh said.

Class begins promptly at 5:30 p.m. Students arrive early for a pre-class stretch. Upon Irvin's entrance, the barefoot students take their position on the floor. Roll is called using the name the students will go by for the semester. Irvin calls out names like Treacherous, Malicious, Destroyer, Ruthless, Terminator and

Brutal.

All respond with the appropriate "Here, Sir." Students begin their stretching exercises counting in Korean.

"The Major pushes his students beyond their limit, or where they think their limit is," says senior, Mike "Terminator" Todaro.

After stretching, the class begins a series of punches and kicks. The feeling of the room is intense. Irvin encourages the students to see their offender and "look at him viciously to hurt him."

The class practices the front snap kick. Major bravely holds the "slammer," a rectangular, black

kicking bag, while students kick towards his head. How many teachers let you do that?

The first new lesson is the roundhouse kick. Similar to the front snap kick, but done while rotating on the ball of the foot. Each student goes in succession giving everyone several turns to practice the new move. No one gets through the line with out Irvin belting his or her name and giving instructions or praise.

Out of breath, the class breaks off for partner work. The next move is the lip rip, a method of rape prevention. "If your attacker goes to kiss you—

let him. Then, bite his bottom lip, drop to your knees and strike," Major said. "You must not let go." It sounds violent, but it could save your life.

Students also learned the prayer choke, what to do when someone grabs their arm and how to get out of a headlock, but you will have to take the class to learn that.

The class ends with a similar set of stretches and punches. Those who appeared meek in the beginning are shouting with ferocious faces. Students seem exhausted, but pleased with what they learned.

Irvin not only instructs

students in the techniques of self-defense; they are also educated in the phases of attack, strategic points to hit their offender and how to use what they have learned. He reminds students "the class is not just about the technique, but the spirit. The response must be greater or equal to the threat."

Not one person in attendance was complaining of a boring class, inept teacher or where they would rather be. For those of you out there who say LSUS has nothing unique to offer — there are still seven spots available. One credit could save your life.

Task forces recommendations revealed



by
Scott
Balcerzak

Seven of the faculty and staff task forces appointed last year to address areas of concern on campus gave their reports during Jan. 16 and 17. A total of eleven task forces were appointed by Chancellor Vincent Marsala to address issues ranging from faculty development to student recruitment. This was the first time that such a large-scale evaluation process has taken place on campus.

"This is the first time we had this many committees working on planning issues," said Dr. Gloria Raines, co-chair of the university planning committee. "We tried to get everybody involved."

The presentations began on Jan. 16, where technology appeared to be the central issue. Dr. Alan Gabehart, chair of the pro-

ductivity and efficiency in services task force, recommended such suggestions as direct deposit of payroll checks, ongoing customer service training and motivational programs, replacing transcript and graduation fees with a single fee, making the registration procedure "one stop," student debit cards, and electronic time sheets for certain employees.

The technology in services task force suggested redesigning the campus web page, developing a student account system, and purchasing a computerized degree audit system.

Jerry Antee, chair of the technology in instruction task force, suggested creating a faculty resource center, stressing student computer knowledge, and increasing the computing services staff.

The faculty development task force suggested mandatory orientation meetings for all first time faculty, and classes/workshops offered to all faculty.

The second day of presentations involved

fundraising and university restructuring issues. Dr. William Vekovious, chair of the fund raising task force, suggested an advisory board of successful alumni and the increased involvement of the faculty and students in fund raising.

The task force on productivity and efficiency in academic programs suggested the restructuring of academic units. Suggestions included combining the three Business departments into two, the three Education departments into two, the four Liberal Arts departments into two, and the four Science departments into two. There was also the proposal of combining the four colleges on campus into two.

The task force also suggested discontinuing the following majors: Communications-Speech, Geography, Physics, French, and Education-Speech and Hearing. Also suggested for discontinuation was the need for full-time German, Russian, and Japanese faculty. It was felt these

courses should be offered on an "as-needed" basis and taught by part-time faculty. There was also the suggestion of moving the Speech Pathology degree from the Communications department on campus to the School of Allied Health. Also, the Mathematics major was suggested to be retooled to focus on applied mathematics and the Computer Science major to be retooled to focus on applied technology. Also, all the degrees mentioned for discontinuation allow for a two to three year grace period to determine if significant enrollment increases occur.

Due to the large amount of projected retirements by faculty in the next few years, the discontinuation of these majors are not expected to create any layoffs on campus.

Also during the Jan. 17 meeting, Dr. Merrell Knighten, chair of the new academic program development task force, gave his report. Among his committee's suggestions were the establishment of postgradu-

ate degrees in Experimental and Pre-Clinical Psychology, English Education, and Health Care Administration. They also suggested the establishment of bachelor's degrees in Spanish Education, Dental Hygiene, Applied Graphic Arts, and Applied Information Technology (the latter two would be concentrations in the General Studies program). Expansions in the Hospitality concentration in Marketing and the career enhancement programs on campus were also suggested. There was also the expressed need for onsite international student and overseas residence programs.

"The planning committee will meet soon and we'll take all the recommendations and distribute them to the appropriate departments," said Raines. "We'll make sure every one is closely examined." A full copy of the recommendations will be available this week.

Dead week lives!

Continued from pg. 1

that if there was a set rule against papers being due the last week of classes and a student asked for an extension he could not give it. "It would straight-jacket me," he said.

Bowen was also concerned that the definition of "major" exam may vary from teacher to teacher.

"That whole bit of what's major and what's minor will be sticky," said Dr. Gloria Raines, vice

chancellor of student affairs.

This is one of the issues Dr. Stuart Mills, provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs, will have to consider when the proposal comes to him. He said he will look at the proposals from the SGA and the Faculty Senate when writing the policy and "try to find something workable."

Dead week may be in place as early as next fall.

Bored? Student activities wants you!



by
Rolanda
Reliford

The Student Activities Board is looking for new members who are hard working and enthusiastic, and willing to participate in events.

Responsibilities of SAB include planning, discussing and hosting

campus events such as Spring Fling 2001, Fall "George" Fest, concerts, free food giveaways, dances and talent shows.

SAB meets every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. in the UC Desoto Room.

At the meetings, SAB members discuss the upcoming events and make arrangements for setting up the event.

SAB committees include: Concerts and Special Events; Novelty

and Variety; and Film, Lecture and Family Programming.

If you are interested in becoming a member of SAB, drop by the Office of Students Activities, Room 232 in the University Center or contact Shannon Murphy, director of student activities, at 797-5394 or Bert Harper, president of SAB at 798-4104.

Visitors are welcome to attend meetings.

Task forces cause controversy



by
Scott
Balcerzak

On Jan. 23, the final faculty and staff task forces presentations were held on campus. The four remaining task forces addressed issues concerning the image of LSUS and attracting and retaining students. A total of eleven task forces were appointed last fall by Chancellor Vincent Marsala to address issues of campus concern. During the meeting,

Susan Beal, chair of the community relations task force, gave such recommendations as: a monthly guest column in "The Times" written by administrators, updating the website, advertisements on I-20, community advisory committees for each college, the need for a campus landmark, and renovating the recently donated Crystal Oil building downtown.

The marketing and image of the university task force suggested focusing on LSUS's "academic excellence," establishing a database to track graduate success, redesigning the

website, and expanding the athletic program.

The student retention task force suggested a 60 minute common hour every weekday, more scheduling of courses throughout the entire day, promoting improvements in "The Almagest," a uniform faculty advisory program for students, and an improved athletics program.

Dr. Paul Sisson, chair of the student recruitment task force, also suggested the improvements in athletics along with the addition of day care facilities, an honors program, and more graduate programs at

LSUS.

During the Jan. 26 faculty senate meeting, some concerns were raised over the entire task force procedure. Dr. Milton Finley, chair of the history and social science department, stressed that the he believed recommendations should be brought in front of the senate. Senate president Dr. Beverly Burden expressed concern over the fact that the task forces were not randomly chosen and could simply show viewpoints of a selected minority.

In an interview done before the senate meeting, Dr. Gloria Raines, co-chair

of the university planning committee, commented that she had yet to hear any direct complaints about the task forces. "As of today, I've only heard a few things second hand," Raines said. "And even if some people didn't like the recommendations, they seemed to like the process." She also commented that even though the hearings last fall were opened, not a single student attended any of them. "We had little student involvement," Raines said. "But I believe the faculty and staff did a good job of representing the students."

Raines explains Student Activity Fee budget



by
Rolanda
Reliford

is.

The Student Activity Fee is paid by students for having activities and running the organizations on campus.

A student is charged the minimum or maximum amount of the fee depending upon the number of credit hours taken. For example, if a student is part time, he or she may pay only the minimal amount of \$15. However, full time students pay the entire \$45.

In order to clarify the discrepancy surrounding the Student Activities Board and the money accumulated from the Student Activities Fee, the executive board of SAB had an extensive meeting with Dr. Gloria Raines, vice chancellor of student affairs, about the budget.

During this meeting,

the executive board members were given a copy of the 2000-2001 University Center Restricted Accounts Budget. Out of this budget, several employee salaries are paid, organizations are funded along with other important funding aspects needed to keep the University Center running smoothly.

"The budget is no secret; the students should be aware of how they are spending their money," Raines said.

The total amount of money in the University Center Restricted Accounts Budget is about \$492,000. This money is dispersed to the following clubs, organizations, U.C. employees, faculty, and staff:

The Debate Program-\$15,000 (student labor, travel, and operating services)

Spectra, a literary magazine published each August by students-\$2,400
Intramural Sports-\$15,000

Student Government Association-\$11,000

The Student Organizational Council-\$3,500

The Almagest-\$22,500

Student Activities, which does not include

Student Activities Board's funding, receives \$147,000 for student worker wages, faculty and staff salaries, benefits, travel, operating services, and supplies.

Student Activities Board's funding comes from the University Center Program's portion of the budget. SAB receives \$46,000 for a two-semester time

period.

U.C. Building Service-\$21,300

U.C. Debt Service-\$70,714 (This debt service is the bond that was placed on the U.C. building until it is paid off.)

The U.C. Custodians-\$80,015

U.C. Maintenance-\$57,571



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Learn not to lean on troubled tiles in B.E.

by Jennifer Valetton

Most of us have been guilty of it. Students line the hallways, leaning or sitting against the walls, while talking to friends or waiting to get into a classroom.

But if you have classes in the Business and Education building, you

should be careful about where you choose to lean.

Loose wall tiles on every floor in B.E. are being temporarily held in place by long strips of masking tape.

According to physical plant director, Don Bloxom, the tape keeps the tiles from falling until they can be re-grouted

and glued.

Bloxom said the loose tiles have been a problem since he arrived at LSUS in 1985. Foundation settling is the cause.

"When the building shifts, the tile does not give or crack like sheet rock would, and as a result, the tiles come loose, fall from the walls, and break," he explained.

Replacing the broken tiles is a problem because the particular color of tile used in the B.E. is no longer produced, and LSUS has just one remaining case of replace-

ment tiles.

Despite the treacherous appearance of the hallways, Bloxom said that there is no danger of the ceilings collapsing, and that the falling tiles have not injured anyone.

Doors in the building are also feeling the effects. Many of those on the third floor will not close or lock properly because the doorways are shifting, and the locks are becoming misaligned.

This problem is currently being resolved by cutting longer holes in the doorways' striker plates to accommodate the shift in the locks.

Students can't look forward to leaning against sturdy walls in B.E. anytime soon.

According to the vice chancellor of business affairs, Mike Ferrell, no plans have been made to renovate the hallways, because of the extreme cost that the project would entail.

LSUS receives only certain allocation of funds each year from the state for "preferred maintenance projects," which currently must be used for other maintenance projects of higher priority on campus.

Problem from Hell



Given that a , b and c are integers such that

$$(\sqrt[3]{4} + \sqrt[3]{2} - 2)(a\sqrt[3]{4} + b\sqrt[3]{2} + c) = 10$$

find the value of $a + b + c$.

Last week's problem:

Twin primes* are pairs of primes differing by 2, such as 17 and 19, or 29 and 31. Pick any two twin primes greater than 3 and 5. Multiply them and add 1 to their product. Prove that the result is always a perfect square and is always divisible by 36.

*The only divisors of a prime number are 1 and the number itself.

Solution: Let n denote the smaller of the two primes. Then the larger will be $n + 2$, hence $n(n+2)+1=(n+1)^2$ which is a perfect square. Notice that $n+1$ is even, so $(n+1)^2$ is divisible by 4. Since n and $n+2$ are both primes greater than 3, neither is divisible by 3. Therefore, $n+1$ must be divisible by 3. Hence $(n+1)^2$ is divisible by 9. Lastly, a number which is divisible by 4 and by 9 must be divisible by their product, 36.

Please submit your answers in writing to Dr. Vekovius in Science 104, or on the internet to vekovius@pilot.lsus.edu. Indulgences will be granted for correct answers. Others plan to take an air conditioner...

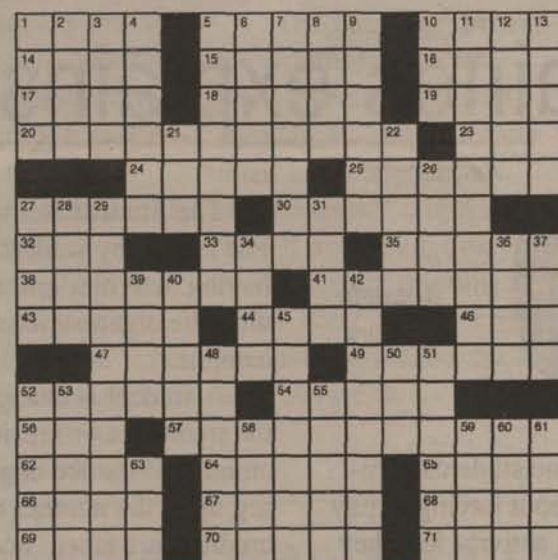
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Gossipy Barrett
- 5 Carrier bags
- 10 Black-and-white whale
- 14 Self-images
- 15 Intense hatred
- 16 Dropped
- 17 Attracted
- 18 Dark olive brown
- 19 Dog's bane
- 20 James Dickey novel
- 23 Samovar
- 24 Marry again
- 25 Particular talents
- 27 Riches
- 30 Nod of the head
- 32 Circle part
- 33 Area of a church
- 35 Quantities of paper
- 38 Impose
- 41 Mature
- 43 Contempt
- 44 March Madness org.
- 46 Today's OSS
- 47 Part of the eye
- 49 Shaq's teammates
- 52 Appear gradually
- 54 "48 Hrs." star
- 56 Actress Lupino
- 57 What is measured in farads
- 62 Flippers
- 64 Haste product?
- 65 Zigzag course
- 66 Part of M.I.T.
- 67 Change
- 68 A single time
- 69 Long or Newton
- 70 Abbey Theatre founder
- 71 Catches forty winks

DOWN

- 1 Funny Foxx
- 2 Fairy-tale fiend
- 3 Christmas carol
- 4 Moving with an eddying motion
- 5 More or less
- 6 Idolize
- 7 Noisy insects
- 8 Bowie of baseball
- 9 Loud kisses
- 10 Not at work
- 11 Disinclination
- 12 Record-keeper
- 13 Alda and Ladd
- 21 Fido's doc
- 22 January in Spain
- 26 From the beginning
- 27 Chewing-gum units?
- 28 Severeid or Idle
- 29 Conformity
- 31 Dreamcast maker
- 34 Sean or William
- 36 Glacier in Glacier Bay
- 37 Bath and Ems
- 39 Lumber source
- 40 Capar
- 42 Come-from-behind players



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Solutions



- 45 Multi-deck game
- 48 To some extent
- 50 Lawyer: abbr.
- 51 Buster or Diane
- 52 Liquor quantity
- 53 Farewell in Rouen
- 55 Group of eight
- 58 Ashen
- 59 Grandma's nickname
- 60 Cyrillic USSR
- 61 Squeezes (out)
- 63 Relicent

Noel Library to host booksigning and exhibit on the history of the Shreveport Fire Dept.



by
Raechal
Leone

Noel Memorial Library assistant archivist Glenda Sharbono has co-authored a book about the historical roots of the Shreveport Fire Department (SFD).

Sharbono and her co-author, Caddo Magnet High School student Brian Florsheim Jr., will sign copies of the book at a lecture and exhibit commemorating the book's release Tuesday, Feb. 6. The free event will take place at

10:30 a.m. on the third floor of Noel Memorial Library.

The exhibit, which is already partially on display, will include log books, memorabilia and photographs Sharbano and Florsheim used to compile their book, "Fire Streams: An Illustrated History of the Shreveport Fire Department." Sharbano said extra materials not used in the book will also be on display.

Sharbano, a former volunteer firefighter and the wife of a Shreveport firefighter, said she has been researching the SFD for about 15 years, since she chose it as the topic of

a college paper. She felt compelled to produce a book because she believed there wasn't enough information on the topic available to the public.

"These people need recognition for their courage and dedication to people," Sharbano said. "I want people to understand who they are and what they do."

Most people, Sharbano said, don't know that most firemen are trained as an Emergency Medical Technician. "They are first on the scene in a lot of accidents," she said.

When Sharbano and Florsheim decided to write the book, they used the

archives of Noel Memorial Library as their primary source of information. However, Sharbano said private collectors and the Shreveport Firefighters Museum Inc. were also invaluable resources.

Although the authors borrowed many of the photographs used in the book, Sharbano and Florsheim each spent a day riding on the trucks with firefighters and a considerable amount of time taking their own photographs.

In addition to Sharbano and Florsheim, Dr. Harvey Carter will be at the event to answer questions and speak about the book and other sources of informa-

tion about the history of the local fire department. Carter, secretary of the local booster organization Signal 51- Shreveport Fire Buffs, will also show a slide presentation.

Copies of the book will be available in paperback for \$20.50, and in hardcover for \$27.

Although the book signing and lecture is a one-day event, Sharbano said the exhibit will be displayed on the third floor of the library through the middle of February.

For more information on the event or exhibit, call 797-5388.

SGA votes against bell use



by
Karen
Knotts

Last week, SGA members voted to cease the use of bells to signal the beginning and end of class periods. The decision to reopen the issue for voting came at the urging of Dr. Beverly Burden, biology professor and Faculty Senate president.

Burden and Dr. Gloria Raines, vice chancellor of student affairs, both spoke on the importance of image to visitors on campus. Their concern is that the use of bells creates a negative image of the campus in the minds of visitors.

"It doesn't seem to fit a collegiate environment,"

said Raines.

The bell system was called "high-schoolish" by one member and another member said the bells give the impression that LSUS is "Shreveport's version of BPCC."

Other concerns raised were that the bells are disruptive to classes that do not end at ten till the hour by interrupting lecturing professors. To the students, faculty and staff working on campus, the bells are an annoyance as they peal throughout the day.

The only argument for continuing the bell system was professors might continue lecturing if there was no bell to signal the end of the class period. Professors lecturing past ten till the hour would cause students to be late to other classes and their jobs.

Burden and other SGA members felt most profes-

sors would not go over the time period.

"People start shuffling around and packing up their backpacks toward the end of a class. It's clear to the professor that the class is almost over," Burden said.

Raines agreed. She said, "At every school I have attended, somebody is looking at their watch. I do not think this is going to be a problem."

Burden will formally present the idea to Chancellor Marsala for consideration. If approved, the Physical Plant will alter the system accordingly. The system cannot be turned off because the school's emergency alert system uses bells.

In prior meetings, both the Faculty Senate and Staff Senate had already voted to stop using the bells.

Raise for teachers?

Continued from pg 1

week, State Rep. Billy Montgomery, D-Bossier, expressed apprehension over the proposal. "The boats in the Bossier/Shreveport area will pay over half these taxes," Montgomery said. "This makes it difficult for representatives up here to vote for increases while they lighten them at New Orleans' land-based casino."

Another controversy is if the initial \$70 million should be mandated to go directly from the school boards to teacher salaries. Many school districts have already warned legislators that some districts will be unable to cover inflation in such areas as utilities, insurance, and employee benefits. Others believe that this money should be directly used for

teacher pay raises.

"I am for school employees receiving a raise," Montgomery said. "But I am not for sending money to local school boards to decide. I want the money to go directly to school employees."

The increase in gambling taxes is a part of Foster's larger plan. This plan will include raising \$90 million to raise faculty salaries by revamping the state's pension system for teachers and state employees. Another \$300 million a year would be created for key state services by using the state's tobacco settlement to eliminate the state's bonded debt. The full plan was presented last week by Foster's chief of staff, Stephen Perry, at a Rotary club luncheon.

Student Success Series aims to ease college life



by
Jennifer
Knafla

Each semester students receiving LSUS scholarships ask a single question, "Why do I have to attend the Student Success Series?" The series, coordinated by Student Activities, is a program in which each student receiving an LSUS scholarship must receive ten points within the course of one semester by attending scheduled sessions. The sessions touch on subjects such as health, academics, and money management.

The series started five years ago as an attempt to meet a student problem of retaining scholarships. Dr. Gloria Raines, vice chancellor of student affairs, said that students who were receiving the LSUS scholarships were losing the scholarships because of poor grades.

The program consists of a variety of sessions designed to aid students in succeeding in school. Raines said the most common complaint that she receives about the program is simply having to do it.

"Students have to realize that the scholarships are not awarded because of high school performance but rather for students to do well in college." Raines said, "And the program is here to help insure that the students do well." Raines refers to the program as "a constant work in progress."

Divided into four groups, the series is tai-

lored to accommodate the different needs of each classification. The freshmen program targets the transition into college. The sophomore program focuses on personal development. The junior program centers on careers. The senior program targets community leadership.

Four hundred eighty-four students were enrolled in the program during the Fall 2000 semester. The largest group was the freshmen with 371 students.

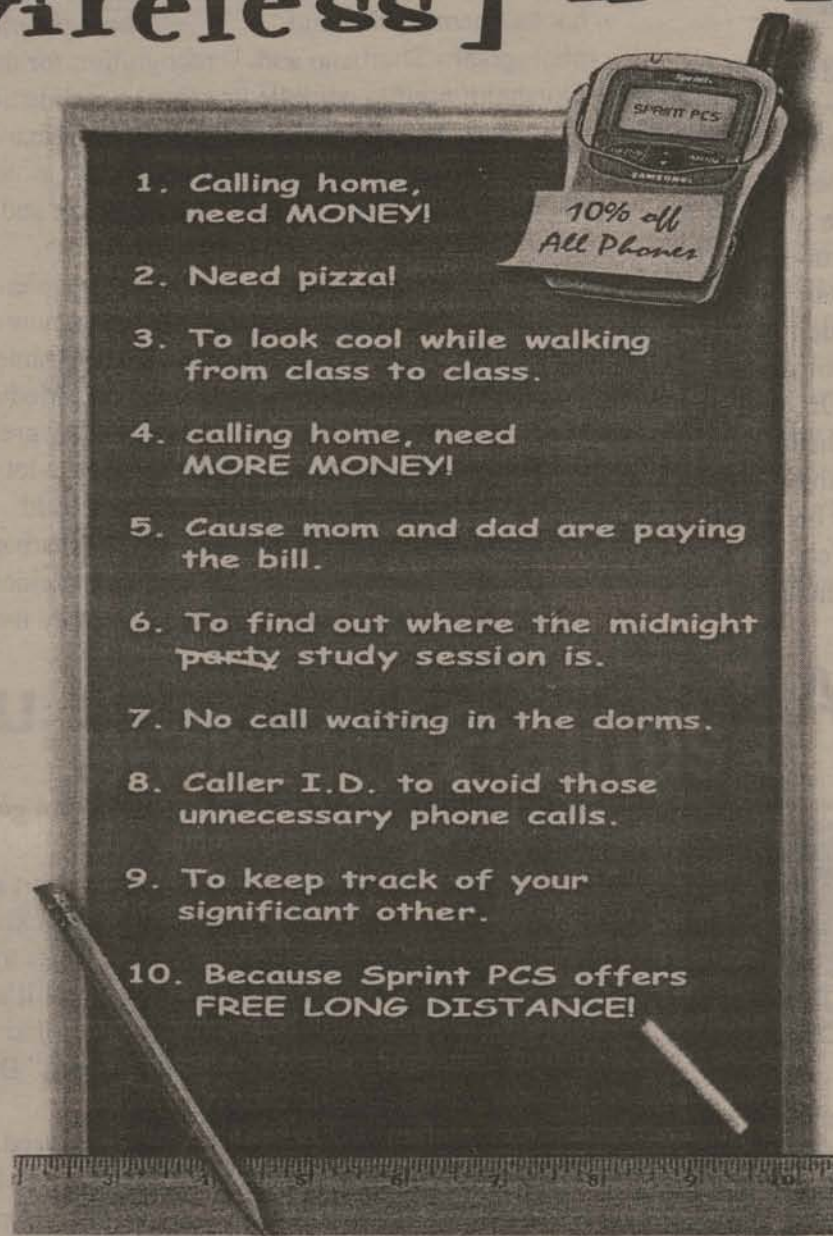
In charge of the freshmen program is Paula K. Lewis, director of the student development and counseling center. Lewis said that the program provides the students with a bigger perspective.

"Less than 50 percent of students entering college have an identified major or actually stick with a major for all four years," Lewis said. "The program makes the students aware of resources on campus and provides students with activities outside the classroom. In return, the program helps to make the students successful in the classroom."

Shannon F. Murphy, director of student activities, said that even though the series is coordinated by student activities, all departments are used to put together ideas and the programs.

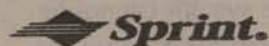
"The goal is to make a connection. Too many students come to LSUS just to come to class and leave without making a connection with anyone. That is what this program hopes to provide," Murphy said.

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Weightlifting center adds variety to campus sports



by
Stephanie
McKinzie

Inside the health and physical science building, LSUS offers the community with a rare opportunity.

It's called the U.S.A. Weightlifting Developing Center and it's the first one ever in the country. It offers a wide variety of unique equipment and a qualified coaching staff.

The director of the center is Dr. Kyle Pierce, who once taught at LSUS in the '80s. In 1996 he worked for the Atlanta Olympic team and decided to place a bid on the center. It was his dream to come back to Shreve-

port. Other large cities and schools throughout the country placed bids, but no one outdid Pierce and the city of Shreveport in their combined effort.

The center is primarily for children about age 11. "Once the kids get into high school, they don't take weight training as serious, and feel inferior to the younger kids," said Pierce. Although young ones are the primary group, Pierce said there are a few LSUS and college level students that train with the team. "We are starting to get more college kids who want to weight train in competition," claims Pierce.

LSUS has held national competitions at its facility in previous

years and this year will hold three more. On Feb. 17-18, they will host the national competition for people 23 and younger. LSUS will have a team and another team composed of younger children from Shreveport will participate. On March 16-18, the national junior championship will take place and on April 20-22, another national championship competition will be held.

Students interested in joining the weightlifting team can contact Pierce by phone at 795-0809 or by stopping by the first floor of the health and PE building. Training normally takes place in the afternoon, after most kids get out of school, and also Saturdays from 9-12 in the morning.

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Counseling psychology program approved

by
Martice Thomas

On Dec. 7, 2000, LSUS received approval from the Board of Regents for its new master's of science program in counseling psychology. LSUS now offers a total of 10 advanced degrees in various fields, with three of those being co-op programs and one specialist degree in school psychology.

This new program has long been the vision of the psychology department. The planning for this program was a long and lengthy process. A committee had to be established and then a proposal

had to be submitted to the entire psychology department faculty for approval.

Dr. Patricia Stanley spearheaded the project and served as the chairwoman of the committee. "I have been here for 15 years, and this has been something the students have been asking for," she said. "We are excited that we were finally able to get it approved!"

She said that the psychology department began doing groundwork to prepare for this program in 1998 by conducting needs assessment surveys and compiling all the necessary data to show that a program like this would benefit the students and com-

munity.

"The school contacted a number of agencies that would benefit from the program, and asked if they felt the degree would be needed, and if so to write a letter of support," she said. "In some cases, the local health care agencies here will provide practicum and internships. They will accept LSUS graduate students from the program and provide them with the needed supervision for them to hone their skills."

The new master's program consists of 48 hours. Upon completion, the graduate will be in a position to become a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). Because of so much

emphasis being placed on community health and early prevention in various sectors of mental health, the job outlook for counselors graduating from the program will be excellent.

Not only will they be in a position to be licensed, but it also provides them with an abundance of opportunities to be employed in a wide range of services, such as community mental health, family counseling centers, hospitals, government entities, treatment centers and best of all they can go into private practice.

According to the web-based Occupational Outlook Handbook 2000-2001, "Demand is expected to be

strong...as a growing number of people are expected to use these services as the elderly population grows and as society focuses on ways of developing mental well-being."

The curriculum and requirements for the program will be finalized before Fall 2001. Stanley said, "Enrollment is expected to increase once more people find out about the program."

The new program will be in the department of psychology. For more information on admission requirements, please call 797-5044, or come by the psychology office in BE 348.

BCM ventures into Biblical history



by
Jeremy
Owens

The Baptist Collegiate Ministry (BCM), formerly the BSU, has moved its weekly Bible study to Tuesday nights at 6:30. The new night promises the same praise and worship that the Thursday nights offered, but the group intends to venture deep into a new study on the history of the Bible as well.

The study actually originated as a Tuesday night class at Summer Grove Baptist Church among believers who

wanted to look at the Bible's history for various reasons. Some wanted more knowledge of the early Christians, some wanted to really challenge the way they thought about the Bible, and still others believed it would strengthen their faith. The early stages of the study were well received and the study grew from there. Eventually, BCM approached Jason Foster, the leader of the study and singles minister at Summer Grove, about moving the study to a more central location. Thus, Tuesday evening's "History of the Bible" series at the BCM building, just a short distance to the right of the LSUS main entrance, was

born. "The goal of this study is to simply help people become more aware of Christianity and the history of the church," said Foster, after navigating those students who came the first night through the behavior of the early Christian church and paralleling it with the behavior of the Christian church today. "I want people to think of this like they hopefully would any other classroom. A place where I am a teacher, a friend."

Going in-depth into anything always means questions and thought-provoking discussions. This study certainly encourages and provides a chance for both. Ultimately, the study will

sweep across varying aspects of Christianity as the semester moves along.

Even though the organization's name has Baptist tagged onto the front, the members of the BCM want to make it clear that anyone is welcome. "Without a doubt, we want to draw Christians together from all denominations for one purpose," added Foster.

Whether an individual does or does not believe the Bible, has no bearing on the fact that it does clearly contain a plethora of fascinating and historical material. This study is all about picking apart that material, finding strength from that material or finding groundwork

upon which to build faith. The doors are open to all. If you've ever wondered about, studied, or questioned the Bible then this study may be for you.

"I think college students should checkout the BCM because we are all about being real," said Jason Pettiet, president of BCM. "We are all about standing true to our beliefs."

The next "History of the Bible" study will be held Tuesday, Jan. 30 at 6:30 in the BCM building and don't forget that BCM offers a lunch for a buck every Wednesday at noon in the BCM building with a few short moments of encouraging Bible study.

LSUS campus police blotter

January 21

10:11 p.m. A woman reported that her boyfriend had pushed her down and choked her at the UCA. She went to work and a couple hours later told her boss that her car had been stolen by the boyfriend. Shreveport police were called but no charges were filed at that time. Later, when the boyfriend returned to UCA to get some property, the woman called campus police and reported that she threw away some computer equipment in the dumpster because she believed it was stolen. A gun was turned over to campus police at this time. Campus police recovered the discarded property and upon investigation found that it hadn't been reported stolen so they returned it to the woman. She told campus police that she no longer believed it had been stolen. The gun will be turned over to Shreveport police for destruction if it cannot be identified. The boyfriend was charged with simple battery and has been banned from UCA.

January 27

6:30 a.m. Campus police were called to the UCA to investigate damage to the front gate. A witness reported seeing a maroon vehicle ramming the gate earlier that morning. She said that after ramming the gate, three white males entered the complex. Investigation did not reveal the whereabouts of these men, but blue paint was found on the gate. The damage is estimated at \$1500.

Lacrosse team seeks leadership



by
Miller
Rountree

LSUS Lacrosse first started in 1999 and has come a long way since. But this year's season is pending.

The majority of the players on the team are now seniors and are more worried about graduating than playing lacrosse. There is also a lack of motivation, stemming from a lack of leadership on the team.

The fact that they do not have a professional coach makes it harder for the team to stay organized and disciplined. Also, experienced coaches are hard to come by since the sport is new to this area. Without a figurehead, it is difficult for the senior players to concentrate because of decisions for plans after graduation. A few of the seniors are

also coaching teams throughout the community, which takes up a lot of their time.

After finishing last year's season four and twelve in the South West Texas Lacrosse Association, it would be a shame to see this program end. The fact that it all started with five lacrosse sticks and thirteen motivated players makes it amazing how far the program has come.

But the show will still go on, last Saturday was the first game of the season. Nick Beggs, captain of the team said,

"It's amazing how we have competed with these teams such as TCU, Stephen F. Austin, LSU-Baton Rouge, LA Tech and Baylor, which have fully funded programs with professional coaches and trainers. Considering the fact that we do not have any of that and we play up to their level and even win sometimes is phenomenal."

The seniors are hoping that after all this hard work, the underclassmen will keep the program alive when they leave.

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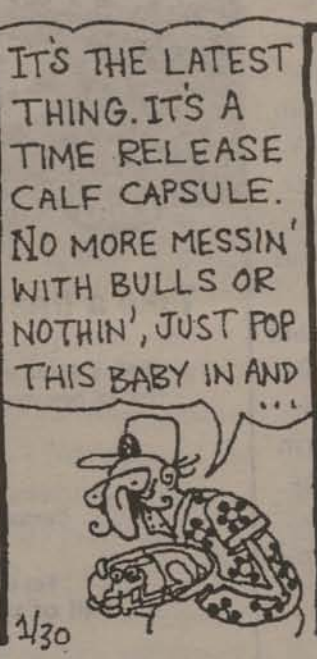


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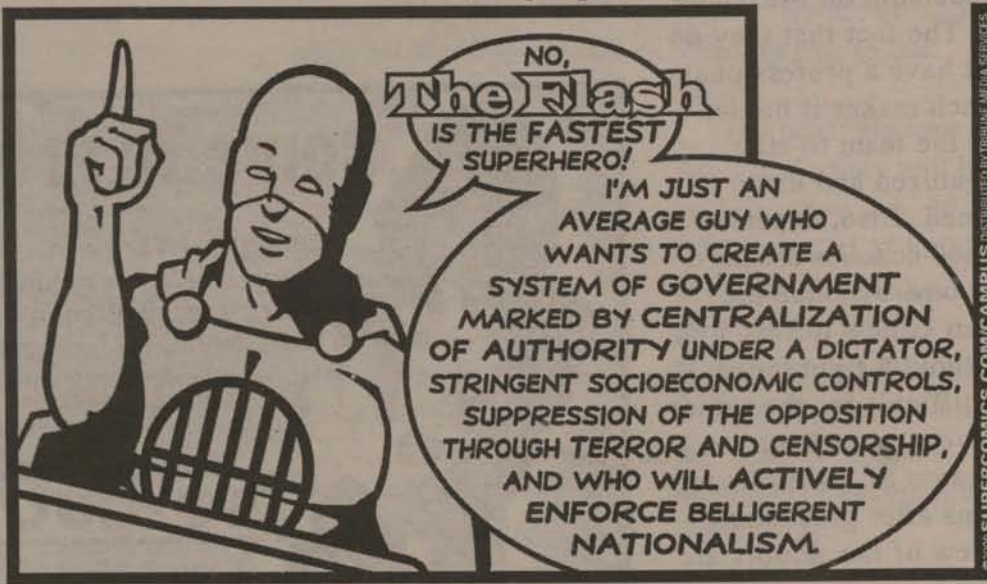


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by Sprengelmeyer & Davis



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